



The Vale Primary School

Beaconsfield Road · Langley Vale · Epsom · Surrey · KT18 6HP

Telephone: 01372 273639 · Facsimile: 01372 279349

Email: info@vale.surrey.sch.uk · Website: www.vale.surrey.sch.uk

Co-Headteachers: Mrs Cathy Browne BA(Hons) PGCE and Mrs Sarah Leyland BEd (Hons) NPQH

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Friday 5th February 2021

Inspiring All

We want to start by saying 'Well done!'. We completely understand that times are hard at the moment and many people's mental health is suffering. The dark, cold and rainy weather hasn't helped and it's times like these when we need to continue supporting each other to get through this. Continue to check-in on each other and keep everyone's spirits high. Most importantly, you are surviving a pandemic! Whatever your personal circumstances, we think you are doing a great job! We know we have high expectations here and this will protect our children from the huge gaps in learning when they come back. However, if emotions get too much on the off day, it's OK to close the chromebook and prioritise your family's mental health - regroup and come back either later or the following day. All we ask is that your children do their best and let class teachers know if they don't understand. This week we have been embedding the tweaks we highlighted last week to provisions so it can be the best it can possibly be whilst at the same time being realistic in terms of teacher and pupil workload. Of course, none of it is ideal. We would love to have children back with us full time and inspire our children with learning in our normal way but we must make the best of a difficult situation and thank you for your support, encouragement and understanding in all of this.

PARENT VOICE FAMILY FORUM

We are holding a zoom parent meeting on Wednesday 24th February at 2.30pm to hear about your views, feelings and opinions about provision and school developments. It will be a nice opportunity to bring a cuppa online and catch up with each other as we haven't had chance to do our termly coffee mornings. We are looking forward to seeing you there. The link to join the zoom meeting was sent in a separate parentmail and can be got from the school office.



NEW PARENT SSB MEMBER

We welcome this week Emma Spindler as our parent representative on our School Standards Board. Thank you so much to Emma for volunteering for this role and we are really looking forward to working with you. Emma has a child in Robin class and a background working as a Merchandising



professional for a global brand. These skills will be invaluable as we continue to work hard marketing our school within our local and wider community. Welcome Emma.

MENTAL HEALTH WEEK 1st – 7th FEBRUARY

As you are aware this week has been Children's Mental Health Week and we have been raising awareness and sharing activities that support the well-being of all our pupils. I have attached with this week's newsletter a booklet of some further ideas and resources. It is so important that we take time to talk about our mental health as an ongoing conversation beyond the week and recognise the impact that factors in our environment and circumstances can have. We all have mental health and need to look after it as we do our physical health.



ONLINE SAFETY

It is **National Online Safety day on Tuesday 9th February** and we will be having an additional assembly on the **Monday** of this week, led by our computing lead Miss MacFeeters for all the children. This will be a recorded assembly that will be posted on Google Classroom. There is one appropriate for junior children and one for infants. These will be posted on Google Classroom. We will also be holding a remote **Parent Workshop for all parents on Tuesday 9th February at 5.30pm**. It is important that you attend this to support your child. It is also essential that parents of children in Year 6 wanting to bring phones to school (for the journey to and from school and not to be used in school at all) must attend this session if they did not attend in the Autumn term. **The zoom link has been sent via parentmail to all parents. Please do contact the office if you have not received them.**

We are aware that there are a lot of our children in our school community playing 'Fortnite', a game that is 12-rated and is therefore deemed not age appropriate for the children in our school. We are also aware of an incident out side of school that happened recently in this game where a stranger came into the game asking inappropriate questions of the children. We would not let strangers into our homes in the same way – please do come to our meeting to find out more about how we can keep our children safe and use the online world in a positive way.

ASSEMBLIES

This week's assemblies will be:

Monday Internet Safety recorded assembly – posted on Google Classrooms. (Separate Junior and Infant ones)

Friday's Celebration Zoom Assembly – the zoom link will be posted on Google Classroom on the day.

PARENT & TEACHER MEETINGS

Thank you to those parents who completed our recent parentmail form or who let the office know about your preferred method of communication for these meetings. We will be offering a phone call or zoom meeting.

We will be holding meetings for parents of children in the week beginning the 8th March from 1.30pm – 3.30pm and 4pm – 6.30pm.



Tuesday 9th March – Year 3 and Year 5
 Wednesday 10th March – Year R, Year 1 and Year 2
 Thursday 11th March – Year 6 and Year 4

You will be able to book appointments from the Monday 22nd February when they will go live on parentmail. Our aim is that these will act as a good transition meeting between the children learning remotely and being back hopefully in school for face to face learning. We will be waiting in anticipation for the Government's road map to school re-opening to all pupils and let you know our plans in due course.



DATES

(New dates highlighted in blue) PTA dates in green

Spring Term Dates		
9.2.21	Online Safety Parent Remote Workshop	5.30pm
15.02.21 – 19.02.21	HALF TERM	
22.02.21	Back to school	
24.2.21	Parent Voice Family Forum	2.30pm
9.03.21	Year 3 and 5 Parent Meetings	1.30pm – 3.30pm 4-6.30pm
10.03.21	Year R, Year 1 and Year 2 Parent Meetings	1.30pm – 3.30pm 4-6.30pm
11.03.21	Year 4 and 6 Parent Meetings	1.30pm – 3.30pm 4-6.30pm
22.03.21	Living Eggs Chicks in School	
01.04.20	Term ends	
	Easter Holidays	
19.04.21	Term starts	
31.05.21 – 04.06.21	HALF TERM	
25.06.21	INSET	
16.07.21	Term ends	
19.07.21 – 21.07.21	INSET	



Inspiring All

Children's Code of Conduct for Remote Learning

Please:

- Follow our vale values and learner qualities as this will help us work together:
 - Be Safe
 - Be Respectful
 - Be Ready
 - Be Caring
 - Be Resilient
 - Embrace Challenge
 - Be reflective
- Use your own device (laptop, Chromebook, tablet), school may be able to loan technology and data cards if this is an issue (contact school if so)
- Log on every day to Google Classroom, via your class Google Meet links - attendance is essential everyday Mon-Fri unless you are ill. Please let your teacher know if you won't be able to make it.
- Work in a well lit, well ventilated comfortable area.
- Switch off other devices to avoid distraction e.g. television
- Keep your camera on and click on mute unless asked to talk to the staff member
- The chat function on Google Meet may be used to ask or answer questions - these should be related to your learning
- Follow the class timetable, take full participation and upload learning when asked
- Think about the quality and presentation of the work you are completing
- Try to take good breaks from working on the screen when you can to have a healthy snack, complete a physical activity and have a brain break.

Remember - believe in yourself, you can do this, asking for help is a strength and we are all here doing this together.

Take care and stay safe.

Cathy Browne and Sarah Leyland
 Co-Headteachers

IMPORTANT NOTICE: PLEASE DO ENSURE YOUR CHILDREN REGISTER DAILY ON GOOGLE CLASSROOM AND ATTEND LIVE SESSIONS UNLESS ARRANGED OTHERWISE. WE HAVE A DUTY OF CARE AND WE WILL HAVE TO FOLLOW SAFEGUARDING PROCEDURES AND PHONE FAMILIES THAT DO NOT. CALLING ON THE FIRST DAY IS OUR NORMAL PROCEDURE IF THEY HAVE NOT REGISTERED OR WE HAVE NOT RECEIVED A MESSAGE.

